

Appl. No. 10/615,996
Amdt. Dated August 7, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action of May 30, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 81784.0278
Customer No.: 26021

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application. Claims 1-10 are submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the prior art in their present form, for the reasons set forth hereafter. No new matter is involved.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably over U.S. Patent 6,842,414 of Park in view of U.S. Patent 4,730,294 of Funada. On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 7 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentably over Park in view of Funada further considered with official notice. On page 6 of the Office Action, claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park further considered with official notice. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In accordance with the present invention, an amount of current supplied to the tilt adjustment coil is controlled based on a signal obtained by adding the detected DC voltage (a DC offset voltage) and a AC signal of the drive signal for the focusing coil. In other words, the amount of current supplied to the tilt adjustment coil is controlled based on the drive signal for the focusing coil.

As noted above, claims 1-3, 6, 8 and 9 have been rejected as unpatentable over Park in view of Funada. In making this rejection, the Office Action states at the top of page 3 thereof "however Park does not teach controlling the amount of current that is supplied to said tilt adjustment coil on the basis of a signal in which the obtained DC voltage value is added to an AC signal included in the drive signal that is supplied to said focusing coil at the time".

The Office Action goes on, on page 3, to state "Funada teaches controlling the amount of current that is supplied to said tilt adjustment coil on the basis of a

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signal in which the obtained DC voltage value is added to an AC signal included in the drive signal that is supplied to said focusing coil at the time (see column 1 lines 27-31 and lines 62-66. While Funada does not teach this in a tilt coil it establishes that controlling a coil using a dc offset from an error signal is well known in the art”).

Such statement evidences a misunderstanding of the disclosure of Funada. Funada describes controlling an amount of current supplied to a focusing coil of a tracking coil based on an error signal for controlling the current of the same. In other words, in Funada, the amount of current supplied to the tilt adjustment coil is controlled by a control signal for the tilt adjustment coil. According to the present invention, however, an amount of current for the tilt adjustment coil is controlled based on the drive signal for the focusing coil, and not upon the drive signal for the tilt adjustment coil.

Claim 1 defines a tilt control method in which actual recording or playback procedure comprises the steps of “detecting a recording or playback position to obtain a corresponding DC voltage value during recording or playback of signals to or from said optical disc”. More particularly, the procedure is further defined by “controlling the amount of current that is supplied to said tilt adjustment coil on the basis of a signal in which the obtained DC voltage value is added to an AC signal included in the drive signal that is supplied to said focusing coil at the time”. As described above, such feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

Claim 8 contains similar limitations so as to also distinguish patentably over the prior art.

Claims 2-7 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all of the limitations of claim 1, so that such claims are also submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the prior art.

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Similarly, claims 9 and 10 depend from and contain all of the limitations of claim 8, so that such claims are also submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the prior art.

In conclusion, claims 1-10 are submitted to distinguish patentably over the prior art for the reasons discussed above. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1814.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: August 7, 2006

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